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INFORMATION REPORT

PREPARED AND DISSEMINATED BY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COUNTRY

Rumania

SUBJECT

Entry and Exit Procedures/Reported Ammunition
Depot at Petresti

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6.

7. Petresti, a small town with a population of approximately five thousand, 50X1-HUM is located in a rather deep valley. The principal industry is a pulp mill which employs approximately 1500 people.

The pulp wood is brought down from the mountains either by truck or by means of the Mühlbacher (sic) river which flows along the mill. The mill works three shifts per day: 0600-1400 hours; 1400-0200 hours; 0200-0600 hours. In addition to the pulp mill, there is a small saw mill which employs about 10 people.

8. [redacted] a large depot or military installation across the Mühlbacher ri-50X1-HUM ver. [redacted] it is an ammunition depot for use by the Rumanian army.

Access to the depot is by means of a wood bridge. I believe that the bridge is about 450 feet in length and is wide enough for two automobiles. The depot is about 1.5 miles from the end of the bridge. The Mühlbacher river has a fairly swift current, because it is used to carry pulp wood to the mill. I did not learn its depth or the extent to which it is navigable.

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9. Living conditions at Petresti are bearable to the townspeople simply because they have become used to the lack of proper food and everyday conveniences [redacted] Grain is in very short supply, as is meat. The people have to line up every Friday for meat that is available. No ration books for the meat are needed, but identification documents are required. [redacted]

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[redacted] The people have small vegetable gardens; however, crops from the larger collective farms are taken by the Rumanian government. Heating and cooking in individual homes are done by means of saw dust briquettes obtained either from Petresti or Sebes. The cost of them is about 80 lei per load.

10. Petresti has very narrow streets constructed of crushed gravel and stones. Electricity is available in the town provided from a power station at Sebes. Street lights are spaced quite a distance apart. A few of the people have radios and reported [redacted] that they have heard broadcasts from Radio Free Europe. [redacted] there are only two telephones in the town, one at the pulp mill and the second at the town hall. The town also has a very small post office and a telegraph station located in the same building. Transportation in and out of town is by means of an old bus which covers an area of about 15 miles in and around the mountain towns surrounding Petresti. The only automobile for private use [redacted] was a two-cylinder German model [redacted]

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[redacted] The streets are very crowded with soldiers from the depot as well as the people who live in the town. [redacted]

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